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Message Text

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43
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 IO-03 EUR-10 DPW-01

PRS-01 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-10 RSR-01 /081 W
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R 211205 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3535
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11170

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SITREP, JUNE 21

FOL SENT ACTION SAIGON FM NHA TRANG AND RPTD FOR YOUR INFO QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0627

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SIT REP, JUNE 21

1. SECURITY SITUATION: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR 2, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF KONTUM, GENERALLY REMAINS AT A SLIGHTLY LOWER LEVEL THAN THE PRE- CEASEFIRE II NORM. EXCEPT FOR KONTUM, A TOTAL OF ONLY EIGHT INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED THIS PERIOD: FIVE IN BINH DINH, TWO IN PHU YEN AND ONE IN NINH THUAN. INCIDENTS INCLUDED: FOUR VC/ NVA ATTACKS BY FIRE, TWO VC/ NVA GROUND ATTACKS, ONE VC MINING, AND ONE SUCCESSFUL ARVN TARGETING OF VC SUSPECTS.
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CASUALTEIS OTHER THAN IN KONTUM: VC/ NVA: THREE KIA AND TWO VC SUSPECTS CAPTURED; RVNAF: THREE KIA AND TWO WIA. ALL INCIDENTS WERE MINOR IN NATURE.

2. INTENSE MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED NEAR KONTUM CITY, PARTICULARLY TO THE WEST AROUND TRUNG NGHIA VILLAGE BUT INCLUDING SEVERAL ENGAGEMENTS TO THE SOUTHWEST IN POLEI KLOR AREA AND TO THE NORTHWEST NEAR DAC ROCOT VILLAGE. ELEVEN VC/ NVA ATTACKS BY FIRE WERE REPORTED FOR KONTUM A?9,& 285# 9,3 ;:/ NVA GROUND ATTACK AND ONE FIREFIGHT BETWEEN VC/ NVA AND RF COMPANY. ENEMY ATTACKS BY FIRE EMPLOYED VARIETY OF ORDNANCE RANGING FROM SMALL ARMS AND B-40 ROCKETS TO 122 MM ROCKETS AND 130 AND 155 MM ARTILLERY. THE GVN HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY USING THE EXPRESSION " VC/ NVA ATTACK BY FIRE" TO DESCRIBE ENGAGEMENTS RESULTING FROM THEIR COUNTERATTACK TO RETAKE AREAS WEST OF KONTUM CITY. NEARLY ALL OF THESE ENEMY " ATTACKS BY FIRE" ARE FOLLOWED BY RVNAF " REACTIONS" SUPPORTED BY HEAVY ARTILLERY AND TACAIR STRIKES. CASUALTY AGGREGATES IN KONTUM FIGHTING: VC/ NVA: NINE KIA, ONE CAPTURED; RVNAF: THREE KIA, 16 WIA. POLOF REPORTS THAT THREE ARVN UNITS ARE NOW BEARING ALMOST THE ENTIRE BURDEN OF THE ATTACK. THESE ARE THE 1 ST BN 44 TH REGT, THE 2 ND BN 45 TH REGT, AND THE 3 RD BN 45 TH REGT. FRIENDLY TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED TO THE NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST FRINGES OF TRUNG NGHIA VILLAGE, BUT ARE MEETING WITH HEAVY ENEMY RESISTANCE AND ATTACKS BY FIRE. HEAVY CASUALTIES ARE DUE TO CONTINUOUS FIGHTING RATHER THAN TO OCCASIONAL ENGAGEMENTS OR INCIDENTS.

3. COMMUNIST EFFORTS TO ENGAGE COMMANDERS IN DISCUSSIONS: POLOFF KONTUM REPORTS CONTINUING APPROACHES TO ARVN BY OTHER SIDE, APPARENTLY IN AN EFFORT TO DISCUSS THE CEASE- FIRE AND POSSIBLE ACCOMMODAITON, BUT GVN AUTHORITIES CONTINUE REBUFF (NHA TRANG 623, PARA 3).

4. COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA: ARRO REP PLEIKU HAS RECEIVED REPORTS THAT THREE NEW RESETTLEMENT SITES IN THANH AN DISTRICT WILL BE TARGETS OF CONCENTRATED COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA DESIGNED TO PERSUADE PEOPLE TO RETURN TO OLD AREAS RATHER THAN BE RESETTLED. EFFORT APPARENTLY BEGAN LAST WEEK WHEN A GROUP OF REFUGEES WERE DETAINED BY COMMUNISTS AND GIVEN A TWO- HOUR LECTURE WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CUT WOOD FOR BUILDING NEW HOUSES.

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5. POLOFF BINH THUAN HAS ALSO NOTED INCREASED COMMUNIST PROPGANDA ACTIVITIES, (NHA TRANG 623) AND REPORTS THAT VC LEAFLETS URGING SOLDIERS TO DESERT AND RETURN TO THEIR FAMILIES ARE BEING FOUND NEAR TAN AN HAMLET JUST A FEW KILOMETERS NORTH OF PHAN THIET.

6. ICCS: ACCORDING TO POLOFF, ICCS BAN ME THUOT WAS ASKED

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ORALLY TO " OBSERVE" MORTARING INCIDENT JUNE 14. REQUEST WENT TO POLISH CHAIRMAN WHO UNILATERALLY REJECTED REQUEST. CANADIANS AND INDONESIANS ANGRY AT POLE FOR FAILURE TO CONSULT ENTIRE TEAM, AND ALTHOUGH WRITTEN REQUEST CAME THREE DAYS LATER, NOW NO INVESTIGATION WILL BE MADE UNTIL FORMAL REQUEST COMES FROM PLEIKU, PROBABLY NOT UNTIL END OF JUNE. CANADIAN MAJOR ARNOLD HAS TOLD GVN TPJMT TO MAKE SURE REQUESTS TO " OBSERVE" COME DIRECTLY TO CANADIANS NOT JUST ICCS CHAIRMAN.

7. RICE FIELD THREATENED IN PHU YEN: ARRO REP PHU YEN REPORTS THAT WORK ON REPAIR OF BREAK IN NORTH CANAL IN WESTERN TUY HOA DISTRICT IS PROGRESSING ONLY SLOWLY (NHA TRANG 614). IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 4 TO 6 MORE DAYS WILL BE NEEDED TO COMPLETEREPAIR WORK, WHICH MAY NOT BE SOON ENOUGH TO SAVE PARCHED RICE FIELDS IN WESTERN PART OF DISTRICT. TEARE UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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